Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting the presence of urease in a gastrointestinal system comprising:

providing a sample of gastric material from a patient;

contacting said gastric material with a first powdered composition located in a first area, said first powdered composition being ~~comprising~~ urea, said urea ~~being capable of being converted into~~ converting to ammonia when contacted with urease; ~~and~~

removing at least a portion of said gastric material from said first area; and

~~thereafter~~ contacting said gastric material with a second composition located in a second area, said second composition comprising ~~an~~ at least one indicator, said indicator being configured to indicate the presence of ammonia thereby indicating the presence of urease in said gastric material.

2. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said urea has a mean particle size of less than 0.1 mm.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said first composition further comprises ~~an~~ a powdered anti-caking agent.

4. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said second composition comprises a gel.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said second composition further comprises agar ~~in addition to said indicator~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said indicator ~~comprises~~ is a pH indicator that changes color when the pH is increased.

7. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said urea has a mean particle size of less than about 0.05 mm.

8. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said first composition and said second composition are positioned in the same container in a spaced apart relationship.

9. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said second composition further comprises a bactericide or a bacteristat.

10. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said indicator ~~comprising~~ is phenol red.

11. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said second composition further comprises a pH adjuster.

12. (Original) A method as defined in claim 2, wherein said second composition further comprises agar and a pH adjuster.

13. (deleted) ~~A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said gastric material is contacted with said first composition such that at least a portion of the urea is combined with the gastric material prior to being removed from said first composition and contacted with said second composition.~~

14. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting the presence of urease in a gastrointestinal system comprising the steps of:

providing a sample of a gastric biopsy material from a patient;

contacting said gastric material with a first composition ~~comprising~~ of urea located in a first area, said urea being capable of being converted into ammonia when contacted with urease;

removing at least a portion of said gastric material from said first area; and

~~thereafter~~ contacting said gastric biopsy material with a second composition, located in a second area, comprising an indicator contained in a gel, said indicator being configured to change color for indicating the presence of urease in said gastric material.

15. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 14, wherein said urea is ~~present as~~ a powder ~~in said first composition~~.

16. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in claim 15, wherein said second composition further comprises agar and a pH adjuster, and wherein said indicator ~~comprises~~ is phenol red.

~~17. A method as defined in claim 14, wherein said gastric material is contacted with said first composition such that at least a portion of the urea is combined with the gastric material prior to being contacted with said second composition.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting the presence of urease in a gastrointestinal system comprising the steps of:

providing a sample of gastric material from a patient;

contacting said gastric material with a composition comprising a powdered urea and a dry, powdered, indicator, said urea being capable of being converted into ammonia when contacted with urease and said indicator being configured to indicate the presence of ammonia thereby indicating the presence of urease in said gastric material.

19. (Original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said urea present within said composition has a mean particle size of less than about 0.1 mm.

20. (Original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said urea present within said composition has a mean particle size of less than about 0.05 mm.

21. (Original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said composition further comprises an anti-caking agent.

22. (Original) A method as defined in claim 18, wherein said indicator comprises a pH indicator that changes color when the pH is increased.